

ASPIRA, Inc. of Pennsylvania

526 W. GIRARD AVENUE, PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA 19123-1485 (215) WA 3-2717-2718

LYDIA HERNANDEZ VELEZ, ESQ.

Chairperson

EMANUEL ORTIZ

Executive Director

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING TUESDAY, MARCH 31, 1987 MINUTES

PRESENT:

Lydia Hernandez-Velez
Isa Velez
Joanne Long
Jose Nieto
Ana Pujols-McKee

Mario Powell
Bernadette Torres
Norma Mitchell
Maria Quinones

ABSENT:

Daniel Concepcion
Nereida Saez

David Vela
Melba Chericco

STAFF:

Emanuel Ortiz

Rosita Archilla

The meeting was called to order by Lydia Hernandez-Velez, Chairperson at 5:45 p.m.

Before commencing with the agenda, Rosie Archilla presented an award to Maria Quinones.

Rosie reported that the McDonald's "Hold-on to Your Dreams" Scholarships for Latino students were given out at an activity at CCP. Joanne Long won one of the three Scholarships for \$500. Maria Quinones won the Role Model for the students award. Rosie presented Maria with a plaque from McDonalds.

I. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Minutes for Tuesday, January 27, 1987; Change to read that Bernadette declined the At-Large Representative position.

Motion to accept minutes by Norma and seconded by Maria. Unanimously approved.

II. FINANCE REPORT:

Rosie and Manny reviewed the financials, and discussed that:

- Program cost is down due to cash flow, etc.
- This quarter closed out consultant fees to Family Planning for Research Project.



- Student travel should read for staff.
- Space cost down due to cash flow situation, which is not yet charged.
- Supplies and equipment up because of new Abriendo Caminos Project.
- Research funds should be corrected to read PHS. Total surplus should be called 'Excess Revenues over the period ended'.
- Audit Status: 1985-86 information being completed by May. 1984-85 and 1985-86 audits to be available by middle of May. Reasons for delays were discussed.

In April, Roger Masch should be here.

Motion was made and approved to accept Finance Report by Isa, seconded by Jose.

III. PROGRAM REPORT:

A. Abriendo Caminos - all staff hired, curriculum set up.

Presently housed in two facilities at 3rd & Columbia (St. Jacobus); 62 students certified by PIC so far, 23 students set to be certified shortly.

Specific requirement of PIC have to be met in order to receive funds, i.e. fidelity bond.

This comes from special funds for Latinos only. Process is lengthy for certification. Documenting income, dropout, citizenship etc. is very time consuming.

19 rejected because of low reading scores; 6th -8th grade reading level is preferred.

Test given in English and Spanish. Math test is 80% of grade needed to pass. These 19 students rejected were referred to a Pre-GED Program at the Lighthouse, unfortunately there is a long waiting list.

We are providing the only GED Program in Spanish and an extensive ESL Program of 140 hours.

Ten tutors from La Salle, Temple and St. Joe's also trained by specialists. Also trained Career Development specialists and counselors are teaching so that students are also being prepared for the job market.

There is a computerization specialist (consultant) who is preparing a Data base for the Project.

Dr. Manuel Guterrez is the evaluator (consultant) for the program.

Have received five IBM PC Jrs for the program and will be receiving more next year. We need software for ESL program.

Program also acitvely involved with parents of students enrolled.

Grievance procedure for the project in place. Rosie is grievance officer.

Rule #1 - No drug involvement. One student is currently under strick supervision and parents have signed a contract agreeing to meet with staff once a week.

Strong parent component: April 15th parent orientation where students will have to sign a contract concerning acceptance of rules.

This is the 4th week. Rosie extended invitation to the Board to come in between 9:00 - 5:00 p.m.

Motivation for the program discussed, 5% are adjudicated youth.

17 students in morning class that are above 8th grade reading level.

\$3.00 stipend daily for transportation and part time jobs made available for students.

This is a Pilot Program, but we have understanding with PIC that we want to make this a permanent program.

Rosie spoke about her experiences in presenting dropout information. A video "Hispanic Dropouts" - Human Time Bomb, is available.

12:1 ratio of students to teachers; 22 week program; after 90 days to place students in jobs or post secondary education.

B. Health Careers Conference:

Saturday, April 4th at Osteopathic Medicine School. ASPIRA is responsible for 10% of expenses - school will cover the other 90%.

Time: 10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. expect 150 students. Isa will welcome on behalf of Board.

C. Leadership is getting ready for Annual Dance tentatively scheduled for Saturday, June 3rd at 8:00 p.m. at the Mitten Hall, Temple University.

Public Policy Program - is in the second internship phase of program. Five students are working with policy makers.

ACF Roller Skating Party had over 300 students. Bus left ASPIRA and went down 5th Street to the Blvd. made about \$400.00/

IV. Jacobo Morales activity was successful. Raised \$225. and \$200 pledges; paid \$1,000. for his fee. He will be coming back in the Fall.

V. PENDING ITEMS

Management consultant that were engaged from the proposal submitted to Sun Company, Emmy Miller & Associates, presented us with feedback report.

They made recommendations to ASPIRA which we must discuss. This report is confidential. Lydia will send to Board members.

Connie Stucker came in and read files, and met with staff to prepare the report.

VI. RETREAT FOR BOARD

Three day Future Directions Conference to plan for the next 10 years for ASPIRA is needed.

Looking at three (3) days in July or September; location will be out of Philly probably in Sunbrooke. Board and staff is required.

At next board meeting we should come with dates for July or September weekend. Tentative date July 16th, 17th, or 18th.

VII. Community event is pending, need to schedule meeting of Committee.

VIII. Hispanic Bar Association - wants to set up scholarship fund.

They want to use ASPIRA as fiduciary agent.

They want to do it jointly with LULAC.

Agreement must be set up with Hispanic Bar Association and ASPIRA. Nitzia Quinones (former ASPIRA board member) is a member.

They don't have 501-C3 (tax exemption) status.

Resolution was prepared that we must vote on.

LULAC will participate in raising money.

Lydia recommended that we accept it because of the need to get Hispanics in Low School.

ASPIRA will keep books.

Motion to accept resolution made by Ana and seconded by Mario.
Motion approved (resolution attached).

IX. NEW BUSINESS:

High School of Engineering and Science interested in starting an ASPIRA Club. Manny informed that Delia Reveron is the staff person to contact.

Isa went to Allentown - dropouts in Junior High School and High School is high. Project aimed for students. Request by High School Principal was made for an organization to come in and share a program to help teachers to understand the culture. Leadership does exist in Allentown but the School District and leadership is apart. It was agreed that it is important that they approach their local Hispanic leadership. If they approach us, we are willing to offer help, but we can't go in there as 'outsiders'.

X. ADJOURNMENT:

Motion to adjournment made by Maria and seconded by Norma.

Meeting adjourned at 7:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Bernadette Torres
Secretary

BT:ld

Attachment